

acid-polar amino acid-hydrophobic amino acid-D, wherein said peptide does not have toxin agonist activity, and wherein Xaa is an amino acid.

Rule 12(e)

90. (New) An isolated and purified peptide having an amino acid sequence Xaa₍₂₎KXaa₍₃₎TXaaQEXaaD wherein said peptide does not have toxin agonist activity, wherein Xaa is an amino acid.

91. (New) An isolated and purified peptide having an amino acid sequence Xaa₍₂₎KKXaa₍₆₎LD wherein said peptide does not have toxin agonist activity, wherein Xaa is an amino acid.

92. (New) An isolated and purified peptide having an amino acid sequence Xaa₍₂₎-charged amino acid-Xaa₍₂₎-hydrophobic amino acid-X-hydrophobic amino acid-polar amino acid-polar amino acid-hydrophobic amino acid-D, wherein said peptide does not have toxin agonist activity, and wherein Xaa is an amino acid.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please rewrite the following paragraphs as follows:

On page 1, replace lines 11-14 as follows:

The U.S. Government has a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable paid-up license to practice or have practiced this invention for or on its behalf as provided for by the terms of Contract No. DAMD17-93-C-3108 awarded by the U.S. Department of the Army.

On page 26, replace lines 1-11 as follows:

domain are conserved among all staphylococcal enterotoxins [Swaminathan *et al.* (1992) *ibid.*]. Indeed, the 150-161 domain of SEB is highly conserved among pyrogenic toxins in general, with 10/12 identities for SEA, SEC1, SEC2, and *S. pyogenes* exotoxin A (SPEA) and 9/12 for SEE [Bohach and Schlievert, *Mol Gen Genet* 209:5 (1987); Couch *et al.*, *J Bacteriol* 170:2954 (1988);